

TORRANCE HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1914 - 12 PAGES - TWO SECTIONS

24th YEAR—No. 28.

TORRANCE, CALIF., JULY 14, 1938

PER COPY 6c

Amazing Building Gain Places City Fifth in So. California

'Blue Card' Curb On Legion Racket In Force Here

A letter of warning to all secretaries of Chambers of Commerce in the county, sent out this week by the 1938 American Legion Convention corporation, found this city prepared to deal with any "racketeers" who may operate under the guise of "helping the Legion convention."

The chief weapon to be used against "camp-followers" will be the same that has been in operation since last March—the "blue card."

According to the letter received by Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of the local chamber from the Legion convention corporation: "Racketeers are already in our midst... attempting to chisel in on the convention. This corporation is attempting in every possible way to thwart their efforts to mislead our citizens and with that in mind we are appealing to you to be constantly on the alert for any activity that might spring up in your community. We would appreciate it deeply if you could keep us advised regarding any nefarious effort where-in the Legion National convention name is used."

Halt Many Schemers

Gilmeister said that he is depending upon the cooperation of Torrance business, professional and industrial men and residents to curb such questionable solicitation by demanding to see the solicitor's "blue card." These qualifying cards may be obtained by any legitimate group or organization who are found to be worthwhile. Those who are investigated and found wanting are denied "blue cards."

"I am advised that the Legion Convention Corporation has the exclusive right to the use of the American Legion emblem and name and any concern attempting to solicit funds or otherwise seek private gain thru the use of the Legion name must first seek approval of Gilmeister," he said. "To assist in keeping the coming national convention free from racketeering the secret committee charged with investigating applications for 'blue cards' here will determine first if the applicants are in good standing with that corporation."

Since the "blue card" method of certifying solicitors here was established last March, a large number of questionable—if not outright illegitimate—schemes of obtaining money or other donations under false pretenses have been brought to an abrupt halt as local residents and business men asked "Where is your 'blue card'?"

ONLY 6 DAYS TO REGISTER

Only six days remain in which to register for the Aug. 30 primary. Registration for the primaries will close at midnight next Thursday, July 21. Voters must register if they have moved since last they registered or if they failed to vote either at the last primary or general election.

At midmonth Democrats still are holding a nearly two to one majority over Republicans in county registration figures. Democrats in this county numbered 795,258 while Republicans totaled 463,174, giving the Democrats a lead of 332,084. Total registration in the county now is 1,344,629, as compared to 1,386,606 registered for the general election in November, 1936, by Yoder.

OPENS HEADQUARTERS

James J. O'Toole of this city, Democratic candidate for nomination to the 68th Assemblyship, opened campaign headquarters this week at Fourth and Pacific in San Pedro. He plans to open his Torrance office next week.

APPOINTMENTS DUE

Mayor William H. Tolson is expected to announce new appointments to the city library board at the next regular meeting of the city council which will be held July 26.

Half-Year Construction Total Here 713 Percent Over 1937 Figure!

Topped only by Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego and Glendale, Torrance stood in fifth place among all Southern California cities for new construction during the half-year that ended June 30.

But in percentage of gain over the same period in 1937, Torrance undoubtedly stands first in the nation. The half-year building total here was \$2,280,637 as compared to only \$319,920 for the first six months of the previous year—a gain of more than 713 percent!

Major contributors to the amazing construction record established in this city have been the General Petroleum corporation, the \$100,000 high school assembly hall, the new transmitter station for CBS-KNX and the intense oil activity in the South Torrance field where new wells have been springing up at the rate of 10 a month since the first of the year.

City	6 Months 1938	6 Months 1937
Los Angeles	\$3,178,384	\$31,260,348
L. A. County (Unincorporated)	10,818,380	9,773,645
Long Beach	5,587,413	4,173,205
San Diego	4,361,182	4,743,737
Glendale	2,335,969	2,732,485
TORRANCE	2,280,637	319,920
Burbank	1,832,356	1,962,141
Burbank	1,838,979	2,375,279
Pasadena	1,648,825	2,890,165
Beverly Hills	1,543,392	2,118,991
Santa Monica	1,438,036	1,343,905
Alhambra	1,254,619	1,835,340
Fresno	1,119,382	1,105,577
San Bernardino	1,114,719	1,501,331
San Marino	1,060,309	1,031,919
Bakersfield	1,001,198	1,741,797
Inglewood		

JULY PERMITS TOTAL \$77,520; 13 ARE FOR NEW OIL DERRICKS

New construction here this month is maintaining the pace set by building activity during the past half-year. The total for July now stands at \$77,520. In July of 1937 the total was \$634,950 which included one permit for a \$620,000 expansion project at the General Petroleum refinery.

Included in the building permits issued from the city engineer's office so far this month were 13 for new oil derricks, totaling \$65,000 and erection of four 1,000-barrel oil tanks at a cost of \$2,820. Complete details of these permits will be found in the report on oil activity in South Torrance published elsewhere on this page.

Other building permits taken out here this month were: T. S. Lovelady for a 10 by 12-foot addition to his house at 1670 Gramercy; J. R. Vandegrift, Los Angeles, for remodeling the front of a house at 1007 Arlington; C. H. McWherter for a one room building in connection with his oil derrick at 2341 235th; S. 100; Andrew Crane, 917 Portola, for a 10 by 12-foot addition to a house at 1420 Crenshaw (Cedar); \$200; Mrs. Hilda Powell, 2600 Eschman, Lomita, for constructing a bath addition to a house at 2152 235th; \$200; J. W. Siegfried, Brighton hotel, for a five-room frame house and double garage at 1222 Beech; \$3,100; Harry Campbell for a 40 by 40-foot steel frame factory building at 1030 Engracia; \$1,500; Republic Supply company for a 20 by 24-foot galvanized iron frame addition to its warehouse at the corner of Sepulveda and Arlington, \$1,000, and Wendell Forgie, 2421 N. Ocean, for a four-room frame house and double garage at 603 Madrid, \$3,100.

Valuation Gain Here More Than 10 Percent

A gain of more than 10 percent in assessed valuation of Torrance properties for 1938-39 is reflected in figures released late this afternoon by the county assessor's office. The figures do not include public utilities. The new total assessed valuation of Torrance is given as \$18,518,050, as compared with only \$16,835,145 last year. This is a gain of \$1,682,905.

Improvements this year are valued at \$5,219,060 as compared with \$4,625,065 last year. Most of this increase is represented in new building financed under the F.H.A. It is reported that Real Estate this year shows only a slight increase, being valued at \$5,799,085 as compared with \$5,747,340 in 1937-38.

Torrance is one of the few cities in the county to show an increase in real estate valuation. Personal property this year is valued at \$7,499,000 as compared with only \$6,462,740 last year. Valuable oil property in Torrance gives this city a large valuation of personal property.

Gardena's total valuation this year showed a decrease. The 1938-39 figure is \$2,073,575 as compared with \$2,079,565 for 1937-38.

Council Names Radio Site...

"COLUMBIA PARK"

Hollywood may have its "Columbia Square"—Torrance has its "Columbia Park."

This name was adopted by the city council Tuesday night in a resolution and now is the official designation of the 37-acre tract at 190th street and Hawthorne boulevard where the Columbia Broadcasting System and radio station KNX are rushing the completion of the world's most modern radio transmitter station to broadcast programs for KNX.

The resolution calls attention to this fact and points out that "elaborate provisions have been made for visitors to inspect the devices in operation at the transmitter" and that "it can be made to serve a serious educational purpose as well as becoming a point of interest for visitors."

The council's mandate also states that "the architecture and landscaping of the transmitter station contributes to make the improvement an attractive as well as a cultural development." In adopting the name "Columbia Park" for the CBS-KNX plant, the council also resolved that the locality will be equipped with "appropriate signs" carrying that title.

PRESIDENT TO SKIRT CITY SATURDAY



FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

... comes within three miles

All plans for the visit of President Roosevelt to Southern California Saturday are complete and with the announcement of his route from Los Angeles to Long Beach today it became evident that he will be the first Chief Executive to approach the boundaries of Torrance.

The closest contact President Roosevelt will make with this city will be at Carson and Main streets and the caravan is expected to pass that point about three miles from Torrance—sometime between 10:15 and 10:45 a. m., next Saturday. Secret service agents in Los Angeles announced today that the presidential schedule and route in Los Angeles county will be as follows:

The President will arrive in Los Angeles at the Southern Pacific (Central) station at 9 a. m., from Yosemite where the party is expected to rest up tomorrow after the tumultuous welcome given the Chief Executive in San Francisco today.

President is expected to remain aboard, greeting visitors for about an hour and then will depart to the automobile caravan.

No Speeches Scheduled

Then the Chief Executive will proceed west on Fourth street to Broadway, south on Broadway to Washington boulevard, west to Flower street, south to Figueroa street, then to Main street (Harbor boulevard) and so to Los Angeles harbor. He is expected to reach Long Beach about 11:30 a. m., and will then strike the Roosevelt highway (101) proceeding to San Diego where he will board the U.S.S. Houston about 4 p. m.

President Roosevelt is not expected to make a speech in Los Angeles on account of the short duration of his stay there. His route in Long Beach, according to latest reports, will run along Roosevelt highway to American avenue, south on American to Ocean avenue, Ocean to Livingston drive, then to East Second street and connecting again with Roosevelt highway. This route has been elaborately decorated and will be kept free of traffic.

Also the Presidential party will make no stops, it is expected to proceed thru Long Beach "at only a reasonable rate of speed."

Youth Hurt When Auto Turns Over In Rounding Corner

After this J. D. Radford, former high school student here who now lives in Wilmington, won't trust his mechanical ability in re-contracting cars as much as he did until this morning. Enroute to the high school where he was to have his re-made car gone over in the shop department, the steering mechanism gave way on Carson street at the turn in front of the school.

The car struck a fire plug, careened into a light standard and turned turtle. Radford was extricated from the wreck by Clifford Watson, General Petroleum service station worker, who rushed him to Torrance Memorial hospital. He was treated for a bad cut over one eye and bruises about his face and back.

CALL SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the city council will be held next Tuesday night, July 19, when bids on the city garbage collection contract will be opened.

12,000 Barrels of Oil Produced in Field Here Daily

With 77 oil well sites producing, being drilled or rigged in South Torrance at the present time, the local field is sending approximately 12,000 barrels of high gravity crude to various refineries daily to maintain its rating as California's No. 1 field. Those figures are the first authentic ones to be issued from the Bureau of Oil and Gas of the state of California and they were announced this week.

Laborers Hurt in Fall at New T.H.S. Building

Two Los Angeles Mexican laborers employed in the construction of the new \$100,000 high school assembly hall here were injured late Tuesday afternoon when they fell from a scaffolding. Jesus Marquez, 34, was the most seriously hurt of the two. He suffered possible fracture of several ribs and abrasions on his hip and back. Jose Villegas, 25, was treated at Torrance Memorial hospital for abrasions of the left jaw.

The two men were removing a cast from a leg-relief on the side of the building when the scaffolding on which they were standing collapsed, according to police reports. They fell about eight feet and Marquez landed on the edge of a mortar board.

Plans for Model Recreation Plant Being Drafted

Preliminary sketches and plans for a model recreation plant, embracing a large swimming pool, bath house, two recreation buildings—one to be located at the city park and the other at WALTERIA—and tennis courts are now being drafted for the city by Walker and Eisen, architects.

A letter from this firm, which drafted the plans and specifications for all civic center buildings, was received by the city council Tuesday night and the architects were authorized to proceed with the data for the recreation project.

Walker and Eisen stated they would present the preliminary material as soon as possible in form that the city may file an early application for a PWA grant of about 45 percent of the cost of the entire project. No estimate has been made as yet as to the cost of the entire plant.

The architects stated that in event the proposed local bond issue to finance the city's portion of the expense fails or the Public Works Administration does not approve the project, the cost of plan preparation will be limited to their "actual cash outlay." If the project is approved by Torrance voters and the PWA, the cost will be the usual architects' fee—six percent of the cost.

TWO FEEDER LINES HERE

There may come a time when Torrance will need two feeder lines from the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct main artery to supply an increased population. In that event the dual lines will be ready to serve.

Tuesday night the city council approved the connection of the feeder water mains—at 190th street and in the southeast corner of the city—planned by the M. W. D. The original plan of the District was to link Torrance to the Colorado river aqueduct by only one feeder—at 190th street.

But William H. Stanger, superintendent of the municipal water district, prevailed upon M.W.D. engineers to give Torrance the dual service at no expense to the city.

Woolperts Greet Son Last Night

Otis V. Woolpert, assistant postmaster at Lomita, was missing today from his usual position behind the windows at the postal center. Last night he became the father of a nine-pound son, who was born at a Long Beach hospital. The baby has been named David Vance. Woolpert, his fellow postal workers, is merely catching up on a lot of sleep that he missed last night.

30 Wells Being Drilled

General Petroleum has staked location for its No. 1 on its 140-acre Fogel lease which is the nearest parcel to the D and B discovery well. Some 1,500 feet south of the D and B Republic Petroleum has property and will start a well immediately. Other operators leasing in this area are Hancock and Bachmann Petroleum. Field scouts report that Standard Oil is preparing to lay a gas line from its absorption plant to the new southerly extension of the Torrance field.

Neal H. Anderson has leased some acreage in the Harbor City area and has staked tentative location for his No. 1 well. Mitchell brought in his well at 232nd and Pennsylvania in the South Torrance field Monday and it is reported producing about 230 barrels. New rigs for drilling wells from "grass roots" and for redrilling and deepening of old wells amount to well over 30 at the present time. Plans for as many more are authoritatively said to be in process.

Oceanic Oil is winding up a brisk leasing campaign centering near 235th and Pennsylvania and is scheduled to drill soon. Hancock Oil is rigging to deepen the Baker and Krause well at 229th and Pennsylvania and Kenber Oil has a derrick up for its No. 1 at the same site.

Hughes Clear "Wet Well" Other activity shows Palma, Dunphy-Roberts, Kovell and Caldwell Oil, headed by J. D. Young, preparing to drill at 236th and Pennsylvania.

McDonald and Burns have finished Moore No. 7, flowing 592 barrels of 26.2 gravity cutting 0.6 percent from 5,006. Lomita Drilling's latest completion, which came in for the largest yield in the field, is beginning to show considerable water cut and is now said to be flowing around 500 barrels of 26.4 gravity cutting 12 percent.

Charles Camp's No. 3 is said to be wet. This well is adjoining the Mitchell hole on 232nd. Walt Hughes' well was cutting about 80 percent water southwest of the Bond lease but it is understood that the water trouble has cleared up. Four-way is starting another well on 233rd west of Narbonne and Jim O'Donnell has a re-bore

(Continued on Page 6-A)

Child Playing in Driveway Hurt by Car

In backing out of his driveway at 1425 21st street last Friday morning, D. M. Solomon failed to see that his 15-month-old son, Dudley, was playing there.

He accidentally ran over the boy's left leg. Solomon rushed the child to the police station where he was directed to Torrance Memorial hospital. After emergency treatment there, the little boy was taken to the Los Angeles Orthopedic hospital for further attention.

The child suffered a broken leg near his knee and severe bruises. As last reports are making a good recovery.



SEINER RUNS AGROUND... In a fog at the entrance to Balboa harbor, Newport Beach but 11 members of the crew escaped by crawling hand over hand thru heavy ground swells. Spectators are shown above watching waves batter the 88-foot purse seiner Kingfisher immediately after the crew came ashore.

Family Reunion Links Evans Clan for First Time in Half-Century

The Evans family, of which Police Officer G. S. "Bill" Evans is a member, doesn't have reunions very often but when they do the gatherings are a series of joyous occasions. The first reunion in 50 years took place last Sunday in Downey with 23 members and four generations present. Last night the local officer and his wife were hosts to another. More are scheduled before two members of the family leave for Wales and the Panama Canal Zone respectively.

It was at Downey that the Welsh member of the family, Mrs. Katherine Evans Short, saw her three brothers and four sisters for the first time in her life! And it was the first time in 56 years that her father, J. D. Evans, now 88 and a resident of San Pedro, had seen her!

And here's the story that a Herald reporter practically had to pry out of Officer Evans this week by main force:

Fate Changes Plans

Mrs. Short, accompanied by a cousin, a Miss Margaret Evans, both head masters of schools in Troorchy, a little town in northern Wales, came to this country especially to see the other members of the family she knew only by correspondence and exchange of pictures. They were met at El Paso by I. G. Evans, a brother who lives in Los Angeles, and escorted to the anxious, eager Evans clan of Southern California.

Mrs. Short was born in San Francisco while her parents were on their first visit to the United States. With them she returned to Wales. When her parents again came to this country for a vacation trip she was lodged with her grandmother. But the elder Evans decided to remain in the U. S. and send for their daughter when she was older. But Pate stepped in and baby Katherine grew up and married a Britisher and remained in Wales.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Evans made their home in this country and in time other children—four more daughters and four sons—were born to them. One son passed away and Mrs. Evans died. Mrs. Short's husband went to France with the British Expeditionary Force at the onset of the World War and died in action.

All Are Present

She has a son, a graduate this year of Oxford University, who is launching his career as a physician. Mrs. Short is an accomplished speaker and has considerable writing talent. She has told her brothers and sister that when she retires, in about three years, she intends to come to Southern California to live. Mrs. Short and her cousin are returning to Wales the latter part of this month.

So much for the Welsh member of the family. Now consider the Panama Canal Zone member: He is D. J. Evans, who has been employed in that Central American possession of the U. S. since 1913; when he went there to work as a crane operator and mechanic during construction of the canal. He too came to Southern California especially for the clan's first reunion.

Panamanian Evans brought his wife, three daughters and a grandson, 20 months old, on his fourth return visit to the U. S. since 1913. He comes north every four years after he accumulates

(Continued on Page 2-A)

Times Writer Offers Slogan for "Frolic"

Suggesting the slogan: "Turn Off the Steam—Turn On the Screams!" Ed Ainsworth gave the proposed Frolic Frolic planned by the Torrance Coordinating Council for next October a good send-off in his Los Angeles column "Along Camino Real" this week.

... And just to make sure everything looks right around town, with plenty of flowers in bloom for the event, Torrance has hired a City Gardener, Fred Blake, that is his history... Ainsworth told his readers.

John E. Miller, president of the Coordinating Council, commented, after reading the "Times" writer's tribute: "That slogan is a good one—maybe we'll adopt it when our Factory Frolic is held."

YODER LOSES DAMAGE SUIT

Motions for non-suit and a jury verdict of no damages brought an end to a litigation which has extended for more than a year following an accident to Dick Yoder, cashier for the Southern California Edison company, while the Ingold building on Marcellina avenue was being enlarged. Yoder asked for \$15,600 damages for asserted injuries he received when plaster from the Edison company office ceiling fell on him while the building was being improved.

The non-suit motions affected the claims he alleged against Dr. C. L. Ingold and George Beckwith, owner and contractor of the building. The action brought with Fay Parks of the Torrance Plumbing company as defendant was decided by the jury which allowed Yoder no claims for damages. The case was heard by Superior Judge Shinn in three days.

Yoder was injured June 15, 1937. Kenneth B. Hughes was counsel for Dr. Ingold and Torrance C. Welch represented Parks in the case. Clifton Hix, San Pedro attorney, was retained by Yoder.

Set-Back Line Asked for Arlington Avenue

A building line having been adopted by the Regional Planning commission for Imperial boulevard, the city council was asked by that body Tuesday night to obtain a similar set-back measure for Arlington avenue in the city of Torrance. The request was made by William J. Fox, chief engineer for the planners and it was referred to Acting City Engineer Leonard Young for investigation and report.